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TO: FBIS/PANAMA CITY. Y

SUBJECT: FBN COMPENSATION PLAN Y

REF: A. FBIS/PANAMA CITY 70616

B. FBIS 51666 4

L. UNFORTUNATELY DEADLINE FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF PANAMA FBN
WAGESCALE HAS SLIPPED TO 21 AUGUST TO ALLOW SUFFICIENT TIME TO CUT

PERSONNEL ACTIONS. HAVE POUCHED THIS WEEK NEW PAYSCALE ALONG WITH

APPLICABLE OGC DECISIONS FOR BUREAU RECORDS PER OUR TELECON ON

5 AUGUST. Y

2. PMCD AND HQS HAVE NO PROBLEMS WITH BUREAU HIRING MONITO	.5	PMCD	CD AND	HQS	HAVE	NO	PROBLEMS	WITH	BUREAU	HIRING	MONITO
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AT FBN-L/1 LEVEL OR WITH TRANSFERRING

.

TO FBN SCALE AT 6/1 LEVEL GIVEN FACT THEY ARE STILL IN TRAINEE

STATUS. HOWEVER - SINCE HAVE BEEN PROMOTED TO

LN-l0/1 AND NEW MONITORS WILL NOW EOD AT FBN-L/1, BELIEVE IT MOST

APPROPRIATE TO TRANSFER BOTH TO FBN-7/1 VICE FBN-7/2 AS ORIGINALLY

PLANNED IN REF B. PERSONNEL ACTIONS TO BE CUT WILL REFLECT ABOVE

CHANGES. Y

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NEDENIM

3. REGARDING COMMENTS IN REF A ON LACK OF COMMUNICATIONS, I
ASSURE YOU THAT YOUR MESSAGES ARE BEING READ. NONETHELESS.
AND I ARE EQUALLY ASTONISHED THAT AFTER SEVERAL MESSAGES
AND EXTENSIVE BRIEFINGS DURING THE BUREAU CHIEFS CONFERENCE YOU
REMAINED MISINFORMED AS TO THE INTENT AND CONSEQUENCES OF THE FBN
COMPENSATION PLAN. I CAN ONLY ASSUME YOUR CONTINUED BELIEF THE NEW
FBN SCALE WOULD APPLY ONLY TO LN EMPLOYEES WAS BASED ON ERRONEOUS
ASSUMPTION THAT THE PRESCALE WAS SACROSANCT WITHIN THE TREATY AND
COULD NOT BE ALTERED, THUS REQUIRING RETENTION OF THE NM SCALE AND
DEVELOPMENT OF THE FBN SCALE TO ACCOMMODATE THE LN EMPLOYEES. Y

4. WHAT WE HAVE DONE, AND THIS WAS EXPLAINED IN DETAIL DURING THE BUREAU CHIEFS CONFERENCE, IS TO ADOPT THE NM SCALE AS THE FBN SCALE AND TO TRANSFER THE LN EMPLOYEES TO THE NEW SCALE AT THE APPROPRIATE GRADE/STEP FOR THE POSITION OCCUPIED. THUS, FOR COMPENSATION PURPOSES, BUREAU NM EMPLOYEES ARE NOT AFFECTED, WHILE LN EMPLOYEES IN TRANSFERRING WILL RECEIVE A SUBSTANTIAL SALARY INCREASE TO ESTABLISH EQUITY BETWEEN POST AND PRE-TREATY HIRES. TO ESTABLISH TWO IDENTICAL PAYSCALES FOR THIS PURPOSE, AS YOU HAD

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ASSUMED, WOULD BE MANAGERIALLY INDEFENSIBLE AND UNACCEPTABLE TO ANY COMPENSATION AUTHORITY. Y

- 5. YOUR FRUSTRATION, ASIDE FROM THE ALLEGED LACK OF COMMUNICATION, WOULD APPEAR TO INVOLVE THE CLASSIFICATION STRICTURES AS

 DETERMINED THROUGH AGREEMENT BETWEEN FBIS AND PMCD, THE SOLE AGENCY

 REGULATORY AUTHORITY FOR THE FBIS FBN COMPENSATION AND CLASSIFICATION SYSTEM. IN PARTICULAR I REFER TO THE STATEMENT THAT THE NEW

 SYSTEM DASHES THE ADMITTEDLY FRAGILE HOPE OF SOME NM EMPLOYEES,

 NOTABLY TECHNICIANS, FOR PROMOTION AND THEREBY CREATING AN ADVERSE

 AFFECT ON MORALE. Y
- L. YOU STATE THAT UNDER THE NM SYSTEM PROMOTIONS FOR THE TECHNICIANS PROBABLY WOULD NOT BE POSSIBLE. I CAN ASSURE YOU IT DEFINITELY WOULD NOT HAVE BEEN POSSIBLE. BUREAU TECHNICIANS ARE NOW BEING COMPENSATED AT A HIGHER RATE THAN CALLED FOR BY THE POSITION AS DETERMINED BY PMCD AND CONCURRED IN BY FBIS. THIS SHOULD NOT BE NEWS. AS INFORMATION ON STAFFING AND POSITION STANDARDS/GRADES WAS FORWARDED TO ALL BUREAUS PRIOR TO THE BUREAU CHIEFS CONFERENCE. Y

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THE POINT IS FBIS CANNOT CONTINUE TO PROMOTE EMPLOYEES 7. AD INFINITUM REGARDLESS OF OCCUPATIONAL SERIES AND POSITION/GRADE LIMITATIONS AS DETERMINED BY THE COMPENSATION/CLASSIFICATION TO DO OTHERWISE IS TO ENTRAP THE BUREAU IN WHAT IS CALLED GRADE CREEP, A PROCESS NOT UNKNOWN AT OTHER BUREAUS WHERE COMPENSATION AND CLASSIFICATION OVERVIEW HAS BEEN LAX. STAFF EMPLOYEES ARE NOT INFINITELY PROMOTABLE, BUT ARE LOCKED INTO THE GS SYSTEM WITHIN THE PYRAMIDAL GRADE STRUCTURES ESTABLISHED FOR THEIR CAREER SERVICES. WHAT APPLIES TO STAFF EMPLOYEES MUST APPLY EQUALLY TO FOREIGN NATIONALS, AND TO HOLD OUT ILLUSORY HOPES OF PROMOTIONS THAT WILL NEVER MATERIALIZE SURELY IS NOT SOUND WE WERE DRAWN INTO THE LONG, BITTER BATTLE OVER THE MANAGEMENT. STATE DEPARTMENT CLASSIFICATION SYSTEM BECAUSE OUR BUREAU GRADE STRUCTURES WERE SEEN AS ARBITRARY, HIGHLY PERSONALIZED, AND INCON-SISTENT WITH UNIFORM CLASSIFICATION POLICY. IN DRAWING UP THE NEW CLASSIFICATIONS/WAGE SYSTEM WE ARE OBLIGATED TO DISPLAY A COHERENT CLASSIFICATION STRUCTURE WHICH MAKES SENSE FROM BUREAU TO BUREAU AND IS DEFENSIBLE AGAINST CRITICISM FROM OUTSIDE FBIS.

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OUR FOREIGN NATIONALS WILL BE HURT FINANCIALLY BY THE NEW SYSTEM,
MOST WILL BENEFIT, BUT THE MOST SENIOR, HIGHLY GRADED EMPLOYEES
WILL FIND IN MANY CASES THAT THEY HAVE REACHED THE TOP OF THE
GRADE LADDER. Y

B. HOPE THIS RESPONDS APPROPRIATELY TO YOUR QUESTIONS AND PUTS US BACK ON TRACK. IF WE CAN BE OF ANY FURTHER ASSISTANCE OR YOU FEEL WE HAVE OVERLOOKED ANY SIGNIFICANT POINTS, PLEASE DON'T HESITATE TO RENEW THE DIALOG. DECL OADR DRV COL-14 ALL CONFIDENTIAL.H

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